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The Israeli Secret Service

by Richard Deacon



The weird world of psychic espionage

C ESPIONAGE aims, in effect, a devastating short cut through mal processes of espionage and espionage. Any nation which could achieve something like superiority in a war. So far no has acquired this lead, not even the Union, which has the knowledge in the extent of its research and experimental work. But they have taken this sufficiently to have monitored what the Union and other Communist States are doing in this field. What pressed the Israelis is the fact is not only Soviet Russia which is loping the theme of psychic warfare, but her East European allies. The versatility of the Jews in scientific as well as cultural fields is well known and their pre-eminence in what referred to as PSI is not generally noted. One of the most remarkable early practitioners in and paranormal experiments is Stefan Ossowiecki, who was Russia in 1877, and who found psychic gifts, which he developed with the aid of a rabbi. In Ossowiecki was imprisoned for crimes and in 1921, when he was free, he went to Poland. There loped his psychic talents to the carried out a number of tele-experiments, including one long-distance transmission. A journalist in made a drawing at his home, copy of it to scientists at Marien-

bad while, at a distance of 400 miles, Ossowiecki telepathically drew the same picture in the sand.

Ossowiecki never accepted any monetary rewards for his work and during the Second World War he used his talents to help the Polish underground. Documentary accounts speak of him locating specific bodies in mass graves.... On the day of the Warsaw Uprising he remarked, "I see that I shall shortly die a terrible death. But I have had a wonderful life!" Before the end of the war he was executed by the Nazis. In the annals of the Jewish underground movement the name of Stefan Ossowiecki is still honoured and one [secret] parapsychological laboratory inside Poland today is named after him and services staffed with intelligence gleaned through PSI techniques. So highly is the PSI work carried out by this agency regarded, in case it is eventually located by the KGB, a duplicate laboratory working on parallel lines has been set up in Western Europe.

This work is more effectively carried on outside of Israel for a number of reasons. First, there is the undeniable fact that Israel is not only a democracy, but a small and compact nation where gossip spreads as fast as it does in a village. Anything unusual or bizarre in the realm of intelligence needs to be experimented with outside Israeli territory. A great deal of this experimentation can fairly easily be conducted under the guise of other aspects of the paranormal—faith healing, psychometry and extra-sensory perception.

But there are other reasons for working outside Israeli territory: psychic research is still a comparatively new

croisez vous a la telepathie?
1 2
et l'existence de l'ame? *
Docteur
T. Faber
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An original drawing contained in a sealed envelope and copied telepathically by Stefan Ossowiecki, a Russian Jew who was one of the earliest practitioners in psychic and paranormal experimentation

science and it can only be developed by a free exchange of ideas with international bodies. American research in this field is nowhere near as advanced or intensive as in the USSR, but at least American scientific studies are freely available for others to study. It is also fairly certain that only among the East European Communist States is psychic espionage being developed and put on a military basis. So Israel's espionage in this field is mainly directed to that quarter.

The Israelis have found that there is widespread indifference and scepticism in Western Europe about the development of psychic espionage, even if in the USA there is a little more enthusiasm. But Dr Milan Ryzl, a scientist who lived in Prague until 1967, when he went to the USA, has made it quite clear that he regards Soviet experiments in this direction as menacing: "The military and the secret police in the USSR display an unusual, disproportionate interest in parapsychology. Some years ago a project was begun in the USSR to apply telepathy to indoctrinate and 're-educate anti-social elements.' It was hoped that suggestion at a distance could induce individuals, without their being aware of it, to adopt the officially desired political and social attitudes.... The dangers of possible misuse of PSI should not be overlooked."

The Israelis have not overlooked this and they probably now have a closer insight into what the Russians are doing in psychic espionage than any other nation. "This isn't just a question of telepathy or ESP alone," my Israeli contact told me. "The USSR is spending vast sums of money in developing research and experimentation in some

very sinister directions. Their telepathic research, for instance, is being devoted to what they call the transference of behaviour impulses—the subliminal conditioning of a person's character. We know they are concerned with developing this technique to try to control agents and even to create traitors. There is some evidence that they have experimented with this technique in the Middle East.

"One young Israeli who was studying at a European university was marked down by the KGB as a possible candidate for 'subliminal control.' He was invited to various telepathic seances organised by a Bulgarian and he at once suspected something deviant was being practised on the participants. In these seances a third person was introduced, known as 'the Interpolator.' He was not only bugging the telepathy of the two people involved in transferring messages by ESP, but, one suspects, trying to distort this work in some way.

"The young Israeli then recalled that when he had first been recruited to come along to these meetings with other young students, he had been questioned quite a lot about his home, family and background. One of the questions put to him concerned his father and he realised that he had supplied the information that his father worked in a military establishment in Tel Aviv.

"This proves nothing, you may think. Well, the young Israeli reported his suspicions. He couldn't in any way confirm them, because he was not knowledgeable in this field. But we followed up his report by making inquiries from agents in Sofia and Leningrad. Surprise, surprise, we found that the Russians were working on means of monitoring—or bugging, if you like—telepathic communications, and one of the aims of this was to distort the flow of messages. You can compare this to radar; the 'Interpolator,' as they call him, creates a kind of jamming of the thought waves. But, of course, it can also be used for playing tricks with the subconscious mind.

"This is the kind of way in which psychic espionage could be applied in the case of a man like Lee Harvey Oswald, who murdered President Kennedy. I am not saying this was the case then, but Oswald had been to Russia. What we are now convinced of is that some of the extremist terrorist and anarchist groups of young people have been subjected to kind of telepathic control."

Another aspect of Soviet development of PSI is that of Kirlian photography, so named after Davidovitch Semion Kirlian, its 78-year-old inventor. This is a revolutionary form of photography which investigates the supposed human "aura" and the energy field emitted by all living things. The Russians have experimented with Kirlian photography in various ways, for detecting diseases in the early stages, for selecting better seeds for planting, and also as a new means of lie-detection in interrogation. It has proved more accurate and effect-

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Ossowiecki and his wife on holiday at a health resort in August, 1939

Prosecution Witnesses Say Scharansky Passed Soviet Intelligence to the West

By Kevin Klose

Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW—A parade of Soviet prosecution witnesses accused Jewish dissident Anatoly Scharansky at a secret session of his treason trial yesterday of gathering and sending to the West intelligence on Soviet space research, "classified" sociology and parapsychology data, and defense factories.

According to a press statement issued by the court—the only information source for yesterday's session—11 witnesses testified against Scharansky. The witnesses included the principal accuser, Dr. Sonya Lipavsky, a physician who ministered to dissidents and who has turned out to be both a KGB informer and a one-time "volunteer" for the Central Intelligence Agency.

The official court account gave little information on Scharansky's responses to these accusers, as the trial completed its second day amid continued strong reaction from the United States and other Western countries to this trial and that of Alexander Ginzburg, a longtime human rights activist.

The anger and frustration in Washington especially constitutes a factor in the strategic arms limitation talks scheduled to begin in Geneva today between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

At the Ginzburg trial, also in its second day in Kaluga, a provincial city south of here, Arina Ginzburg, Alexander's wife, was ejected after she stood up and protested that one prosecution witness' testimony was "lies from beginning to end."

The witness was Arkady Gradoyev, an artist friend of Ginzburg's who reportedly testified that Arina Ginzburg had threatened him after he testified Monday.

Prosecution witnesses finished yesterday, alleging that reports issued by the Moscow group to monitor Soviet compliance with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki accords slandered the Soviet state. Ginzburg, Scharansky and Yuri Orlov helped found the group, one of several set up around the country. Orlov has been convicted of anti-Soviet agitation, the same charge lodged against Ginzburg and against Scharansky, whose additional treason charge carries a maximum penalty of death.

The Ginzburg accusers sought to rebut reports of the Helsinki group that alleged psychiatric imprisonment of political prisoners and inhumane conditions in Soviet labor camps. They also alleged that a relief fund for political prisoners that Ginzburg administered from Western royalties earned by his friend Alexander Solzhenitsyn's works "has been set up specially

to finance hostile-minded persons," the official court report said. The money went to enemies of the state, they said.

Ginzburg, 41, who suffers from heart and stomach illnesses, was made to stand throughout the proceedings, his wife said.

Much of yesterday's prosecution of Scharansky, 30, a computer programmer who was refused an exit visa to Israel and became a pivotal figure in the Moscow human rights movement, apparently centered on his relations with Robert Toth, a former Los Angeles Times correspondent here.

The court statement did not mention Toth by name, but Leonid Scharansky, Anatoly's brother, who attended the opening session Monday, reported that the prosecutor, Pyotr Solonin, had identified Toth as an American intelligence agent posing as a journalist. Toth denied the allegation.

Scharansky was aided, according to the official account of the prosecution evidence, by Vitali Rubin, a former Soviet who now lives in Israel. Rubin was a spy who sent Scharansky "through the diplomatic mail of one of the embassies a written assignment" to collect information on the role, staffing and location of various defense enterprises, the court statement said.

According to the official account, a number of witnesses asserted that Scharansky, guided by ambitious, selfish aims, and "through an agent of a military intelligence service who worked in Moscow as a correspondent, [passed] on the information collected to the West."

The account asserted that "the witnesses also gave evidence on other concrete facts of Scharansky's subversive activity," saying it was "paid from the outside and the defendant himself did not work anywhere and was comfortably off being fully sup-

ported by the West in recent years."

Witnesses alleged that Scharansky "repeatedly assisted" Toth "in the course of 1976-77 in establishing on a conspiratorial basis, contacts with bearers of secrets from among Soviet scientists and experts in various fields."

Toth was accused of "worming out" information that is not subject to publication in the open press, on Soviet space research, classified information in the field of sociological research and parapsychology.

On Toth's personal instructions, Scharansky is said to have personally questioned a Soviet scientist on the development of engineering genetics, and also obtained information on gene research institutions.

Toth has denied ever spying anywhere and said that the information Scharansky helped obtain was used only in articles for the Los Angeles Times.

Vance, in Geneva for Gromyko Talks, Sets Meeting With Scharansky's Wife

VANCE, From A1

concern." Vance said the meeting, expected to take place tomorrow afternoon after the last of Vance's scheduled meetings with Gromyko, was arranged at Avital Scharansky's request.

The senior official said Vance hopes to obtain from Gromyko "further elucidation of what they (the Soviets) are doing and why they are doing it" in the human rights field.

There is no consensus among U.S. officials in the Vance Party about why the Soviets chose to begin the Scharansky and Ginzburg trials only two days before the Vance-Gromyko meetings here. One official suggested that the Soviets do not expect the present talks to produce a finished SALT agreement and so decided to go ahead with the controversial trials despite the cloud they cast on the discussions.

Both Vance and Gromyko, in separate arrival statements here last night, said the main focus of their discussions is to be the nuclear arms negotiations. There was no indication from Gromyko that he is willing even to discuss the Soviet dissident trials with Vance.

In a brief airport statement, Gromyko said his side is ready for discussions of the SALT question "as well as others" with good will. He refused to answer any questions.

In the current low state of Soviet-American relations, there was little optimism in the Vance party about

the talks that are to begin this morning. Seldom in recent years have the leaders of two nations been in such open and heated conflict on such a broad range of questions.

The two principal SALT issues to be discussed here, according to the senior official, are limitations on new types of strategic missiles and the limitations to be applied to the Soviet Backfire bomber. He added that there is more likelihood of progress on the missiles than on the bomber.

Officials accompanying Vance said the United States will inform the Soviets that it reserves the right to go ahead with a plan to dig thousands of new silo holes to permit deceptive basing of the U.S. land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles. The senior official said that no decision has been made by the United States to adopt the multiple-hole system but that the option is kept open in the negotiating documents for the new treaty.

Another U.S. official, who has been keeping close tabs on the progress of the SALT negotiations, said rapid progress could be made on the remaining technical issues if the broader political questions between the two sides could be solved.

In addition to SALT and human rights, reporters were told by the U.S. side that the Middle East and other questions would be taken up with Gromyko. Officials did not rule out discussing conflicting policies in Africa with the Soviet foreign minister.

The Vance-Gromyko meetings are scheduled to take place alternately in U.S. and Soviet buildings here.

The first meeting is scheduled for an office building on the edge of Geneva's botanical gardens that was started by financier Bernard Cornfeld as headquarters for his speculative securities empire, but taken over by the U.S. government after he went bankrupt.

Virginia Receives Bids on Road Work

RICHMOND (UPI)—The Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation received yesterday bids for construction, repair and maintenance on roads in the state, including one for construction of another section of Interstate Rte. 66 in Arlington County between Spout Run Parkway and North Veitch Street.

Meanwhile, the state highway and transportation commission said it has approved for award 21 contracts totaling \$15 million for projects affecting state roads.

The contracts include paving the final 5.1 miles of I-66 in Prince William County and erecting travel service signs along the 87 miles of Interstate 81 in the Salem district.

Beirut's Hopes for a Normal Life Fade

By Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Foreign Service

BEIRUT—An air of anxiety and helplessness reminiscent of the worst summer of the civil war two years ago has settled over Beirut.

The country's political leaders seem unable to come up with a formula for defusing the explosive military situation, and the patterns of the city's life which had been well on the way back to normal—have crumbled again. Some Lebanese say they expect a new round of full-scale fighting to erupt any minute. Others believe that the latest crisis is petering out—but that this only means the explosion they fear is inevitable has been deferred for a time.

"It is hard to find anyone who foresees an early end to the country's torment."

Prominent religious leaders and politicians, for the most part the same men who were powerless to halt the catastrophe of 1975 and 1976, continue to go up the hill to the presidential palace at Baabda to urge President Elias Sarkis not to resign, fearing the chaos that might ensue.

With yesterday's announcement that a Cabinet meeting scheduled for today had been canceled, the betting was that Sarkis would not carry out his threat to step down since speculation here had his resignation following that meeting.

But privately, many Lebanese seem to agree with Beshir Gemayel, mill-

tary boss of the Christian Phalangist militia, who told a Paris newspaper that it made little difference whether Sarkis stays or goes because his government "has been disintegrating for the past two years."

Sarkis, who argues that he cannot accept responsibility without power, continues to say that he wants to resign and he continues not to do it.

Political observers say the longer he leaves his resignation threat on the table, the less impact it has. The initial shock has already worn off with no sign that the Syrians or the Christian

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factions are going to make the concessions that would enable Sarkis to act effectively.

Syria has again issued stiff warnings to the Christian "gangs." In the words of the ruling Baathist Party's newspaper al-Baath, "Those gangs have prevented the legitimate authorities from doing their duty. To this day the authorities have not been able to develop a formula for a national army free of sectarian fanaticism. The authorities have been prevented from presenting any national accord formula because those gangs want a sectarian formula, not a national one."

The Christians, led by former President Camille Chamoun, are as defiant as the Syrians are determined. Chamoun's latest blast called the Damascus government a tool of Soviet communism.

In that atmosphere, there seemed little prospect of a breakthrough as the speaker of the Lebanese parliament, Kamel Assad, Shiite Moslem, went off to Damascus yesterday on what he called a "personal initiative."

Nor did there seem any realistic hope for adoption of a formula drafted by some prominent Christians—including newspaper publisher Ghassan Tueni and Beshir Gemayel's brother, Amin—that reportedly calls for the militia to get their weapons off the streets of East Beirut and the Syrians to pull back from the Christian area after a period of calm.

"Everybody went too far," one Lebanese observer said. "The Syrians went too far in their shelling of East Beirut. Sarkis went too far in saying he would resign. The Christians went too far in exposing their connection with the Israelis."

The reference to Israel, which has pledged itself to prevent the annihilation of the Lebanese Christians by Syria, brought up one of the great underlying fears in the present situation—that Israel would step in, touching off a war with Syria.

As a fresh reminder of Israel's interest in the current situation, Israeli warplanes streaked across southern Lebanon yesterday—creating sonic booms over the port of Sidon, some 26 miles south of here.

But there is a corollary to the fear of Israeli intervention—a deep-seated concern that if the Syrians let up on the Christian factions, the Christian

leadership will push for outright partition of the country.

"They will declare their own state, you watch," a Moslem government official said of the Christians. "They have lost a lot of their territory in the northeast, but they will still do it."

Meanwhile, all flights out of Lebanon are booked full. The capital is again a divided city, with only a determined few willing to risk sniper fire to cross from the Moslem to Christian side or back. Government ministries on the Moslem side are functioning fitfully; those on the Christian or eastern side not at all.

Postal service has been cut for nearly two weeks. Telephone lines were cut. Water and electric supplies have been erratic, and a heat wave has left the city breathless. The main banks are closed, as is the port.

Public transit is at a halt. It is hard to say when it will be restored, since the Christian militias used many bright new postwar buses as roadblocks during the fighting, and they are now only burned out shells.

The government has only now begun to assess the extent of the economic blow dealt to Lebanon by this latest round of fighting—the second economic bozo punch of what was supposed to be a recovery year.

The first was the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon — hardly mentioned these days—which destroyed houses, shops and orchards, and drove thousands of refugees from their homes.

Black Man Held by S. African Security Police Dies

By Carlyle Murphy
Washington Post Foreign Service

JOHANNESBURG—A 20-year-old black man plunged to his death from the fifth floor of a police station Monday, becoming the 23rd person to die since March 1976 while in the custody of South African security police.

A statement released yesterday by Justice Minister Jimmy Kruger said Lungile Tabalaza jumped from a fifth-floor window of the Sanlam building in Port Elizabeth.

The building houses the same security police offices where black consciousness leader Steve Biko received the head injuries that resulted in his death last September.

The police announcement yesterday that Tabalaza, 20, had committed suicide was greeted by blacks with open disbelief.

Opposition members of Parliament called for an urgent investigation of Tabalaza's death. Opposition spokeswoman Helen Suzman termed it

"particularly significant" that the death had occurred at the place Biko had been detained.

"This alone calls for special investigation into the methods used by the men in charge," she said.

Kruger said an inquest would be held as soon as possible at which relatives and their representatives could be present.

Kruger also said he had appointed a senior police officer to investigate Tabalaza's death "with a view to possibly disciplinary action . . . in view of the strict instructions that police should do their utmost to prevent detainees from committing suicide."

In his statement, Kruger said Tabalaza was arrested Monday by the uniformed police in connection with three incidents involving arson and robbery that he was not being held under South Africa's security laws, which permit indefinite detention without trial, and that he would have been formally charged within 48 hours.

Nevertheless, Tabalaza's death occurred after he had been handed over to the security police for further investigation, Kruger related. He said Tabalaza jumped to his death about 3 p.m.

An eyewitness, Martinus Pretorius, who was working in his offices under

he gave to police who came to stand around the body.

"I was ordered [by the police] to go back to my shop," Pretorius said. Tabalaza died in an ambulance on the way to the hospital, Kruger said.

The justice minister's response to Tabalaza's death contrasts sharply with his attitude after Biko's death, when he initially reported that the black leader died of a hunger strike. Kruger later came under severe criticism for his handling of Biko's death and for remarks belittling the event.

Last May, Kruger issued new rules to security policemen instructing that interrogations should be conducted in strengthened rooms unless they were on the ground floor. The rules explicitly stated that "everything possible had to be done to prevent detainees from jumping out of buildings."

Tabalaza is the first detainee to die since the inquest into the death of Biko last November.

The verdict in that inquest exonerated the police, who said Biko's head injuries were suffered during a scuffle. Biko's lawyer charged that the dead black leader had been beaten by police, and then denied proper medical treatment.

The Biko verdict drew criticism at

U.S.: Legislators Told in '75 Pretoria Was Paying for Trip

United Press International

The State Department says five congressmen were warned the South African government and not their private host was paying for a trip they took to South Africa in 1975-76.

Spokesman Tom Reston confirmed a CBS-TV report Monday involving Reps. John H. Dent (D-Pa.) Richard H. Ichord (D-Mo.), Harold Runnels (D-N.M.) and Bob Wilson (R-Calif.) and Sen. Carl T. Curtis (R-Neb.).

CBS said the cash value of the trip was estimated to be \$3,000, and that

ice." Doles is now assigned to the U.S. embassy in Wellington, New Zealand.

Reston confirmed that account, saying that in 1975, department officials, "in the course of briefing several members of Congress who were about to visit South Africa, told [them] that . . . we, the department, had obtained information indicating that the trip was not being paid for by the ostensible host for the visit but rather was being funded by the South African government."

Reston said he could not "render